

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended)      A ~~document storage specification generator~~ computer apparatus for generating a storage specification for a document, the document having associated with it at least one storage label, the computer apparatus comprising computer readable program code and further comprising:

        a storage specification template database for determining storage specification templates according to storage labels associated with documents,

        a rules database comprising rules for resolving conflicts between conflicting storage specification templates, and

        a storage specification generator for generating a storage specification for the document ~~therefrom~~ based on the storage specification templates determined by the storage specification template database and the rules obtained from the rules database.

2. (Currently Amended)      A ~~document storage specification generator~~ computer apparatus according to claim 1, ~~in which~~ wherein the computer apparatus further comprises a hierarchy database having a specification template hierarchy, and wherein the rules database comprises hierarchy rules for reconciling storage specification template conflicts according to the relative storage specification hierarchy.

3. (Currently Amended)      A ~~document storage specification generator~~ computer apparatus according to claim 1, ~~in which~~ wherein the rules database comprises inter-label storage specification template conflict resolution rules.

4. (Currently Amended)      A ~~document storage specification generator~~ computer apparatus according to claim 1, ~~in which~~ wherein a storage specification template comprises a plurality of fields.

5. (Currently Amended)      A ~~document storage specification generator~~ computer apparatus according to claim 4, ~~in which~~ wherein the computer apparatus is configured whereby to

operate such that the rules database provides default entries for uninstantiated fields in the storage specification template.

6. (Currently Amended) A ~~document storage specification generator~~ computer apparatus according to claim 4, ~~in which~~ wherein the computer apparatus is configured ~~whereby to~~ operate such that if there is an uninstantiated field in the storage specification template, a user query is referred to a user interface in order to obtain user-inputted information to provide information to be inputted to the uninstantiated field.

7. (Currently Amended) A ~~document storage specification generator~~ computer apparatus according to claim 1, ~~in which~~ wherein the computer apparatus is configured ~~whereby to~~ operate such that if the rules database determines that a conflict between storage specification templates exists for at least one field common to the storage specification templates, but that no rule is provided to reconcile the conflict, a user query is generated to a user interface in order to obtain user-inputted information to provide information to be inputted to the at least one field to thereby reconcile the conflict.

8. (Currently Amended) A document storage specification generation method performed by a computer executing computer readable program code stored on a computer readable medium, for generating a storage specification for a document, the document having associated with it at least one storage label, the method comprising the steps of:

determining at least one storage specification field according to storage labels associated with documents,

resolving conflicts between conflicting storage specification fields by applying rules from a rules database accessible by the computer, and

generating a storage specification for the document ~~therefrom~~ based on the at least one storage specification field determined in the determining step, the rules obtained from the rules database, and the conflicts resolved in the resolving step.

9. (Currently Amended) A document storage specification generation method according to claim 8, ~~in which~~ wherein the at least one storage specification field is of a storage specification template.

10. (Currently Amended) A document storage specification generation method according to claim 9 ~~in which~~ wherein the computer comprises ~~there is~~ a hierarchy database having hierarchies of specification templates and the rules database comprises hierarchy rules for reconciling storage specification template conflicts according to the relative storage specification hierarchy.

11. (Currently Amended) A document storage specification generation method according to claim 10, ~~in which~~ wherein the rules database comprises inter-label storage specification template conflict resolution rules.

12. (Currently Amended) A document storage specification generation method according to claim 11, ~~in which~~ wherein the hierarchy rules are applied before the inter-label storage specification template rules.

13. (Currently Amended) A document storage specification generation method according to claim 9, ~~in which~~ wherein a storage specification template comprises a plurality of fields.

14. (Currently Amended) A document storage specification generation method according to claim 13, ~~in which~~ wherein the rules database provides entries for uninstantiated fields in the storage specification template.

15. (Currently Amended) A document storage specification generation method according to claim 13, ~~in which~~ further comprising the step of:

if there is an uninstantiated field in the storage specification template, referring a user query ~~is referred~~ to a user interface in order to obtain user-inputted information to provide information to be inputted to the uninstantiated field.

16. (Currently Amended) A document storage specification generation method according to claim [[9]] 8, ~~in which~~ further comprising the step of:

if it is determined that a conflict between storage specification templates exists for at least one field common to the storage specification templates, but that no rule is provided to reconcile the conflict, generating a user query ~~is generated~~ to a user interface.

17. (Currently Amended) A document storage specification generation method according to claim [[9]] 8, ~~in which~~ further comprising the step of:

outputting a storage specification for the document, which is output and associated with the document in order to obtain user-inputted information to provide information to be inputted to the at least one field to thereby reconcile the conflict.

18. (Canceled).

19. (Canceled).

20. (Canceled).

21. (New) A computer apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the computer apparatus initially reconciles storage specification template conflicts according to the relative storage specification hierarchy, and then the computer apparatus resolves conflicts among particular ones of the storage labels that would cause different numeric or character values being inputted to a particular field in a storage specification template, in accordance with predetermined conflict resolution rules stored in the rules database for the particular field and the particular ones of the storage labels.

22. (New) A method according to claim 8, wherein the resolving step comprises:  
reconciling storage specification template conflicts according to the relative storage specification hierarchy, and  
after the reconciling step has been completed, resolving conflicts among particular ones of the storage labels that would cause different numeric or character values being

inputted to a particular field in a storage specification template, in accordance with predetermined conflict resolution rules stored in the rules database for the particular field and the particular ones of the storage labels.

23. (New) A computer apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the user is provided with a drop-down display that includes values that can be entered for the uninstantiated field, and wherein, once the user makes a selection on the drop-down display, the selected value is stored in the uninstantiated field.

24. (New) A computer apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the user is provided with a drop-down display that includes values that can be entered for the at least one field, and wherein, once the user makes a selection on the drop-down display, the selected value is stored in the at least one field.

25. (New) A computer apparatus according to claim 7, wherein, in a case where the user-inputted information results in a conflict, the user-inputted information is rejected from being entered in the at least one field, and user is prompted to re-input information to be stored in the at least one field.

26. (New) A method according to claim 15, further comprising the step of:  
providing the user with a drop-down display that includes all permitted values that can be entered for the uninstantiated field,  
entering a selection on the drop-down display by the user, and  
storing the selected value in the uninstantiated field.

27. (New) A method according to claim 16, further comprising the steps of:  
providing the user with a drop-down display that includes values that can be entered for the at least one field,  
entering a selection made by the user on the drop-down display, and  
storing a value corresponds to the selection made by the user in the at least one field.

28. (New) A method according to claim 16, further comprising the steps of:
- providing the user with a drop-down display that includes values that can be entered for the at least one field,
  - entering a selection made by the user on the drop-down display,
  - determining whether the selection made by the user results in a conflict,
  - if the determining step indicates no conflict, storing a value corresponds to the selection made by the user in the at least one field, and
  - if the determining step indicates a conflict, providing the user with the drop-down display to allow the user to enter in another value for the at least one field.